

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF CAPT. CARLOS ALFONSO MORALES FIGUEROA

1. DURING MEETING OF 16 AUGUST WITH [REDACTED] ^{SOURCE} RAISED QUESTION OF WHEREABOUTS OF CAPT. CARLOS ALFONSO ((MORALES)) FIGUEROA, EX-COMPANY COMMANDER MILITARY DETACHMENT 6 AT SONSONATE IMPLICATED IN LAS HOJAS MASSACRE OF PEASANTS. [REDACTED] ^{OFFICER} SAID HE HAD HEARD FROM US CONGRESSMAN THAT MORALES FIGUEROA WAS, IN FACT, UNDER ARREST AT THE GENERAL STAFF AND ^{OFFICER} ASKED [REDACTED] ^{SOURCE} FOR DETAILS.

2. ^{SOURCE} [REDACTED] SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF PRESSURES FROM USG THE ARMED FORCES (FAS) HAD ARRESTED MORALES AND HAD HIM UNDER DETENTION IN THE GENERAL STAFF. [REDACTED] ^{SOURCE} SAID THE ARREST WAS ILLEGAL AND THE DETENTION IS ILLEGAL. IN THE FIRST PLACE, ARMY OFFICERS PICKED UP MORALES WITHOUT GIVING HIM FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF THE PURPOSE OF THE ARREST. HE IS ALSO HELD IN A MILITARY DETENTION AREA BUT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE JUDGE OF THE FIRST INSTANCE IN THE CIVIL SYSTEM IN SONSONATE. MORALES IS AWARE OF THE ILLEGALITY OF HIS DETENTION BUT HE IS GOING ALONG WITH IT "FOR THE GOOD OF THE INSTITUTION".

3. ^{SOURCE} [REDACTED] ALSO SAID THAT THE CAPTAINS IN THE GRADUATING CLASS OF MORALES [REDACTED] PROTESTED THE DETENTION OF MORALES NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT IS ILLEGAL BUT ALSO BECAUSE HE IS "INNOCENT". [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED] SAID THAT A COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT MORALES IS AN "AUTHENTIC HERO". HE HAS AT LEAST 5 BATTLE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Approved for Release
NOV 1993

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

WOUNDS AND IS A DECORATED, HIGHLY RESPECTED, FIGHTING OFFICER. HE ALSO SAID THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE ARE UNCLEAR AND IT IS BY NO MEANS CERTAIN MORALES IS GUILTY OR CAN BE PROVEN GUILTY. [REDACTED] THERE WAS A LAND DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO INDIAN GROUPS, A DENOU CEMENT OF ONE OBY THE OTHER AND THE RESULT WAS A CONFLICT IN WHICH PERHAPS AS MANY AS 18 INDIANS DIED.

5. FINALLY, [REDACTED] SAID NO ONE KNOWS HOW THE CASE WILL TURN OUT OR HOW IT WILL BE HANDLED PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE ILLEGAL DETENTION ASPECT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]